

"Virginia's Fabulous Fauna" 2002 Contest Winners

by Lynda Richardson

Congratulations to all of you who entered the 2002 "Virginia's Fabulous Fauna" photography contest! This year's competition had the largest number of entries yet; 416 photographs submitted by 50 people. It was a tough competition to judge because there were so many great images but we finally narrowed it down to these winners! Enjoy, and be inspired!

Birds of a Feather

The *first place* winner for "Birds of a Feather" is John Altman of Orange, for his lovely image of a male cardinal in the snow. John reports that this photograph was shot in Orange County with a Canon EOS-7 camera, using a Canon 100-400 L IS lens, and shooting Fuji Superia X-TRA 400 print film. I like how the tree branch-

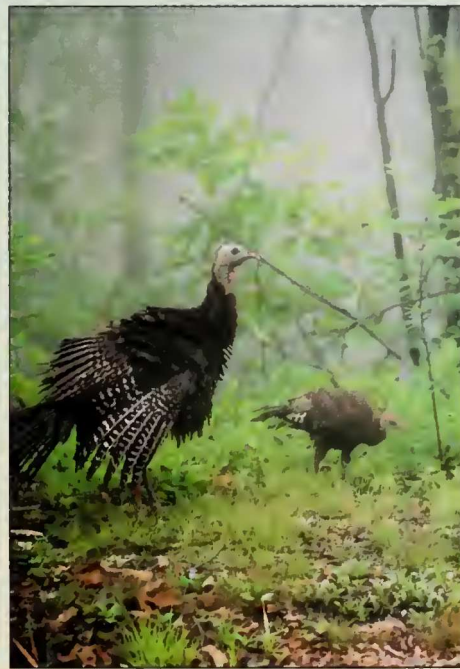


First Place, "Birds of a Feather," by John Altman.



Second Place, "Birds of a Feather," by Mundy Hackett.

es lean in the opposite direction of the bird's body and don't distract from the subject by cutting behind the head. The forward lean of the



Third Place, "Birds of a Feather," by Marty Judd.

cardinal combined with the blurred motion of falling snow really made this shot. Good job!

Second place goes to Mundy Hack-

ett of Richmond, who used a Canon EOS-3 camera and Fuji color print film to record this "humdinger" of a hummingbird. Getting this close to a hummingbird, stopping the action, and achieving a clean background is very hard to do. Great shot!

Marty Judd of McGaheysville, took *third place* with his photograph of a soggy hen turkey and one of her poults on a misty morning in the Shenandoah National Park. This picture was taken with a Canon EOS Rebel G, a Canon 80-200 zoom lens, and color print film. Beautiful!

This year, we have three honorable mentions in each category. An *honorable mention* is awarded to George Gibbs of Salem, for his image of a sleepy barred owl, photographed just after dawn along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Bedford County. George used a Nikon N-80 camera, a Tamron 200-400mm lens, and color print film to capture this shot. Great spotting!

Teresa Sturgeon of Poquoson, re-



Honorable Mention, "Birds of a Feather," by George Gibbs.



Honorable Mention, "Birds of a Feather," by Teresa Sturgeon.



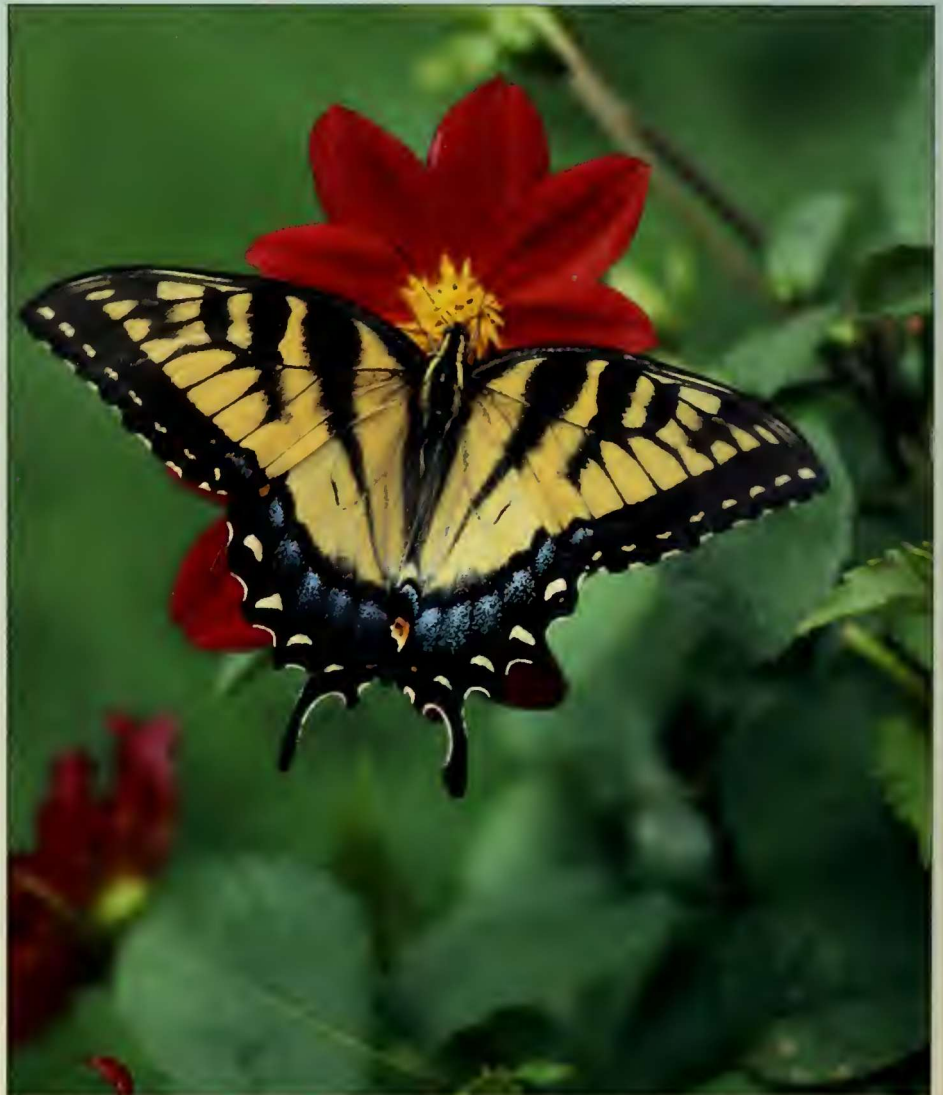
Honorable Mention, "Birds of a Feather," by Kate Burch.

ceives an *honorable mention* for her picture of a great blue heron with a fish photographed at Messick Point in Poquoson. I loved the texture and motion of the water surrounding the bird. Teresa writes that this photograph was taken with a Canon EOS Rebel 2000 camera, set on the Auto-Program mode using a Canon 70-210mm zoom lens, and color print film. Nice action!

Kate Burch of Christiansburg, receives an *honorable mention* for her striking image of a hummingbird taken in her yard using a Canon EOS 10S and a 35-135mm zoom lens. I just love the motion in the wings and that fill-flash look! Kate reports that she wanted to get a picture of a hummingbird visiting the red cardinal flowers that her family had planted for hummingbirds. "So, I set my camera on a tripod in the flowerbed, hid behind a fence, and waited for the hummingbird to come. I am 13 years old and learned about photography with my 4-H Club this year." Boy, I wish I had been a member of that 4-H Club when I was growing up! You did an outstanding job on this photograph Kate!!! Congratulations!

Cold & Clammy Critters

"Cold & Clammy Critters," is always the biggest and most difficult



First Place, "Cold and Clammy" by John Sharp, Sr.